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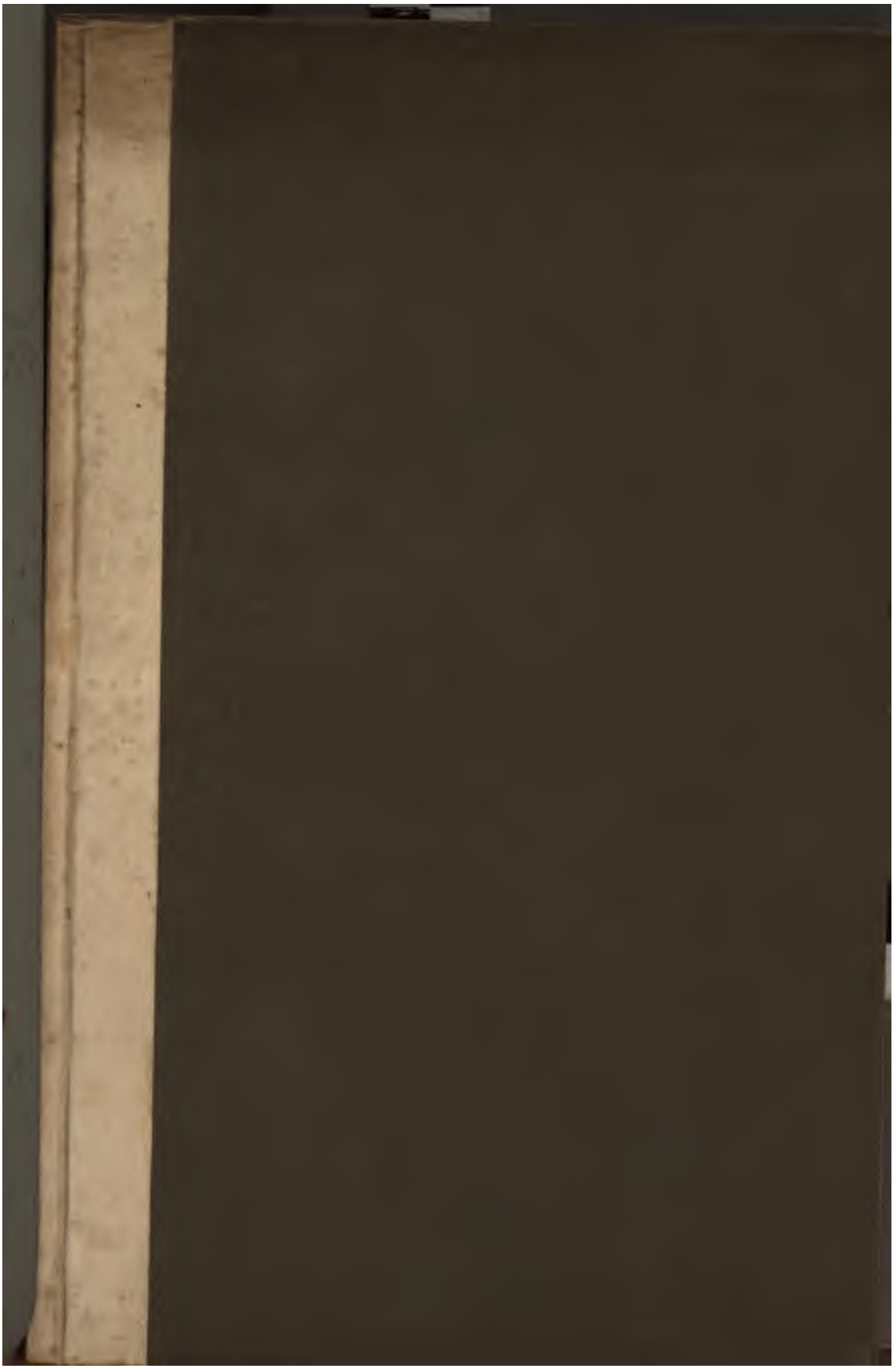

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American Statistical Association.

MEMORIAL

OF

EDWARD JARVIS, M. D.

BY

ROBERT W. WOOD, M. D.

A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

BOSTON:
T. R. MARVIN & SON, PRINTERS.
1885.

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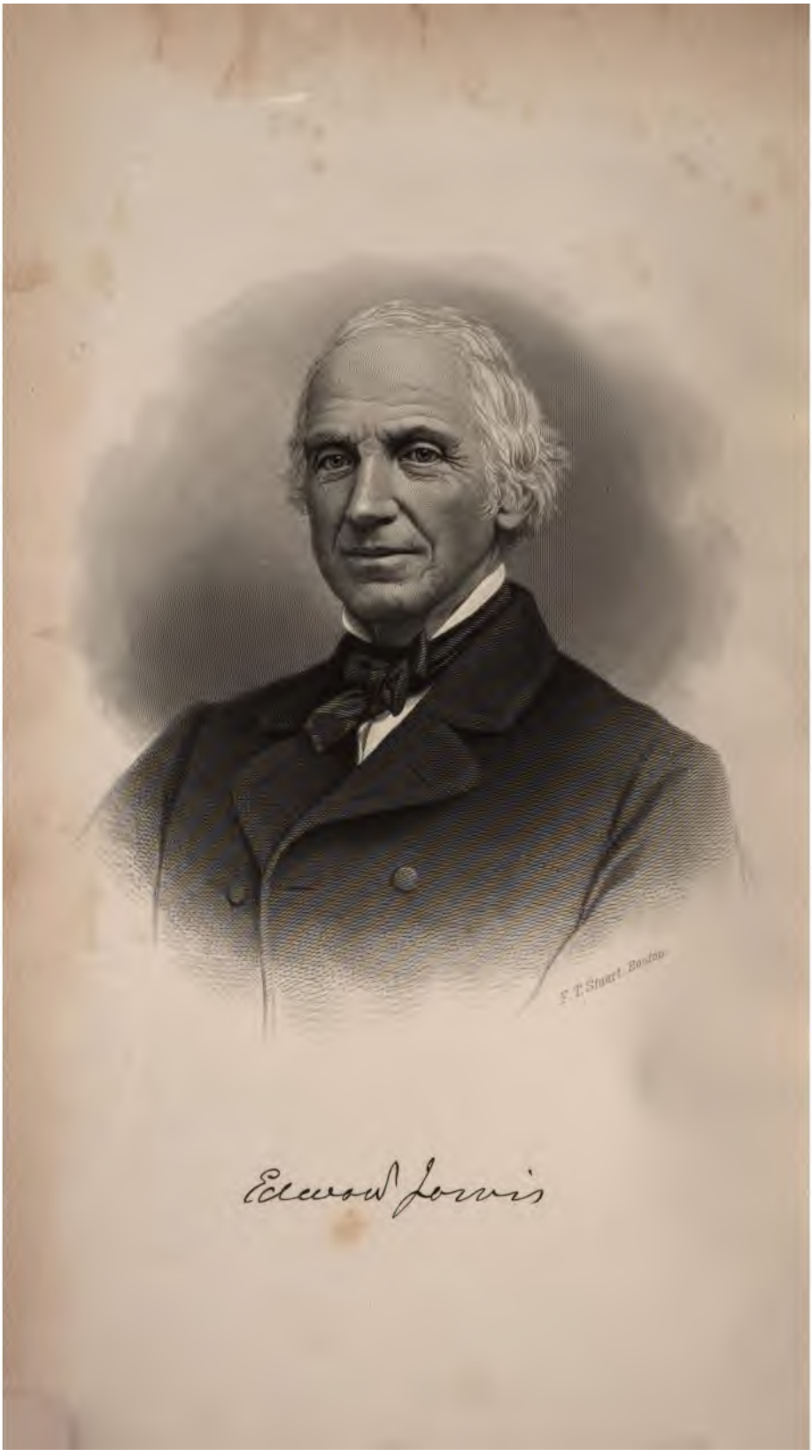

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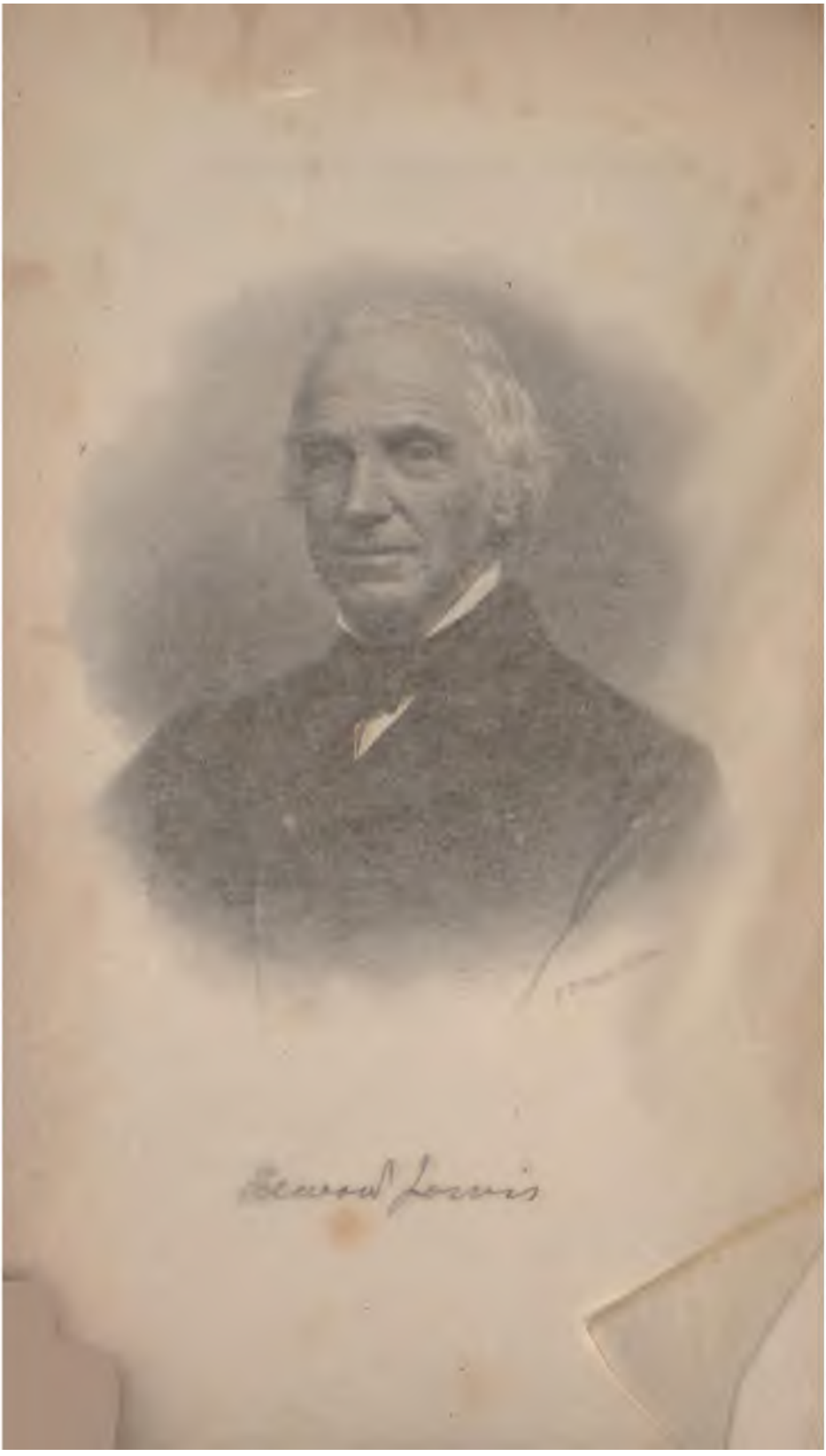
Edward Lewis

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BOSTON, Dec. 22, 1884.

MY DEAR DR. WOOD,—

All the members of the American Statistical Association, with whom I have conversed, have expressed a strong desire that you should prepare for the January Meeting an account of Dr. Jarvis's life and services, embracing a statement of his leading views as known to you, his intimate friend of long standing.

This, with the tributes of others less formal and extended, will be the order of exercise for that meeting. May I not trust that you will comply with the fervent wish of your associates.

Sincerely yours,

FRANCIS A. WALKER.

ROBERT W. WOOD, M. D.,
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

The following paper was read at the Annual Meeting of the American Statistical Association, January 16, 1885, in compliance with the invitation of the President, Francis A. Walker.

Printed in accordance with a vote of the Association, by order of

THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

FEBRUARY 12, 1885.

MEMORIAL

OF

EDWARD JARVIS, M.D.

WHEN I was requested to prepare a paper for this meeting, giving an account of "the life, services and leading views of Dr. Jarvis," it appeared to me that the theme thus presented, comprised too much to be brought within the limits of the time and space allowed for such a paper. Dr. Jarvis was a man of extraordinary industry. Almost any day in the year, when not engaged abroad, he might be found at his desk from early morning till late evening — needed intervals of rest excepted.

In this brief sketch, therefore, I have selected from the records and memories he has left of his life's work, such leading passages as are illustrative of his character, his genius, his predominant aspirations, his choice of subjects of investigation, and fields of special work, in which, in accordance with the general aim of his life, he believed he could render the best and most effective service to humanity.

Before Dr. Jarvis had become fully committed to the study and treatment of mental disorders, his professional life, as a general practitioner of medicine, occupied a period of about twelve years. Of these years two were passed in Northfield, five in Concord, Massachusetts, and five in Louisville, Kentucky. During his practice in the first two named places, he had met with but moderate success.

The profession of medicine was not his *first* choice. He had a strong preference for the Christian ministry. His friends, however, suggesting that his habitual rapidity of utterance might prove a hindrance to his eminent success as a preacher, he next chose the profession of a physician, not because he had any strong predilection for such a calling, but because he believed that in no other open to him could he render greater service to his fellow-man. During the early years of his practice, his attention was directed to a variety of subjects more congenial to his tastes than the practice of his profession.

He was always a warm supporter of the cause of education, giving much of his time to mental and moral training of the young. Wherever located, we find him a leader and an efficient worker on the school committee. In Northfield especially, he gave more of his time than he could well spare from the requirements of his daily practice, in visiting schools in remote districts. Whilst in college he was a zealous student in botany, and in Northfield he explored the country far and near in collecting, analyzing and classifying the entire flora of that region.

When in Concord, he was placed upon a committee for collecting and purchasing books for a town library, to which he gave much time in accordance with a hereditary as well as an acquired and cultivated taste (as he defined it) for libraries. This became the nucleus of one of the best furnished country town libraries in the State. He also gave much of his time to the preparation and delivery of lectures in Concord and in the surrounding towns. With the exception of these favorite occupations, outside of the practice of medicine, there was but little to distinguish his early professional life except what he called his "medical doubts" and failure to realize the hoped for "increase of reputation and income," especially the latter, which had afforded him scarcely more than a bare support.

"As soon as he began to read on practical medicine and the statement of remedies prescribed for disease, he began to

inquire further as to the precise relation of the agent to the evil it proposed to influence or remove." These inquiries led to no satisfactory results. In all the doctor's investigations of various subjects, at different periods of his life, nothing more or less than the *exact truth*, the *precise fact*, could satisfy him. *This*, with clearness of statement, was a marked characteristic of the doctor's habit of thought. During his visit to England he was exceedingly gratified with the cordial reception tendered him by his correspondents, to whom he is said to have rendered valuable service, as admitted by them, in their discussions of subjects of mutual interest. They credit him, as do also his friends at home, with a remarkable gift in the detection of a sophism or fallacy, with an almost intuitive discrimination of a simple fact from the semblance of fact under its various guises. When, however, he turned his attention to therapeutics, which had, for him, no basis of truth other than authorities, he was distrustful. There was an element of uncertainty which his habit of thought could not tolerate. "This distrust of the effect of medical agents followed him through life."

During the first two years of his practice in Northfield, when on a visit to Boston, "he called on the late Dr. John Ware and communicated to him his troubles," and he was much relieved by the assurance of this distinguished physician that he himself had come to entertain the same doubts. "Before he had consulted Dr. Ware, he had feared that his doubts were due to a want of sagacity or power to perceive rather than to the want of power of these agents to heal." Thus far it appears that Dr. Jarvis, during the early years of his practice, had not realized his highest ideal. And yet, in comparison with the experience of the young physicians of his day, fifty years ago, no one but himself could have seen just grounds of discouragement. The doctor under-estimated his achievements, as he did also his abilities, natural and acquired. And this tribute is justified by a review (during his student days and early practice in Northfield) of his original inquiry into the rationale of the medical practice of his day; leav-

ing but little doubt, that, had he relied less on authorities and more on his convictions, he might have anticipated the profession, in their adoption, some years later, of more rational methods.

"In 1836 a new and unexpected experience was thrown open to him." An insane young man from Cambridge was placed under his care, and in the course of a few months restored to health. Soon afterwards he received another insane patient from Cape Cod, which proved to be incurable. Subsequently an insane lady from Boston, by the recommendation of the late Dr. James Jackson, was placed in his charge. "During the treatment of these cases the attention of Dr. Jarvis was turned to the study of mental disorders, and resulted in changing the whole course of his professional life and thought. He found the treatment of mental disorders more consonant to his taste and habit of thought than the general practice of medicine."

Before he had taken any decided steps in this direction, an opening presented itself in the McLean Asylum. Dr. Lee, the superintendent, lay at the point of death, and his physician, Dr. Jackson, foreseeing the fatal termination of the case, advised the trustees to be looking out for a successor, and strongly urged the claims of Dr. Jarvis. The trustees after several interviews with him, appeared entirely satisfied and have stated that had his name then been presented, he would have been elected. Before the meeting of the trustees for that purpose, however, another candidate, Dr. Bell, of New Hampshire, was brought forward by his friend, Mr. Dwight, secretary of the Prison Discipline Society, and was finally elected. This was a grave disappointment to the doctor, but it did not divert him from his purpose of giving his exclusive attention to the study of mental diseases, and the treatment of the insane whenever the opportunity of regular employment would justify his retirement from general practice.

In 1837 Dr. Jarvis became dissatisfied with Concord. Dr. Bartlett, the leading physician, was very popular, and Dr. J. saw no prospect of rising above the relative position of a sub-

ordinate. His social relations were in the highest degree satisfactory. No one was more in request in social gatherings. The warmest and best friends of his life were in Concord. It was the home both of his own and his wife's family. And during his whole life, his affections, binding him to Concord, had been as true and as constant as the law of gravitation. The necessity, therefore, of looking out for another field of practice was painful to him.

The frequent disappointments and reverses which from the commencement of his professional life had crossed his path, are found upon memorandums which he has left. And I have introduced his own account of them here and elsewhere as illustrative of his entire honesty, great frankness and impartiality of statement in matters which so essentially concerned himself personally. "But just now a little light dawned upon the doctor's prospects, from an unexpected and remote quarter. His old friend and classmate, Mr. Hosmer, was preaching at Louisville, Kentucky. Many families were then residing there from the northern States, and finding their surroundings very attractive, they expressed themselves as contented in that strange land, except in time of sickness, when they felt the want of a New England physician, with whose habits and sympathies they were familiar," and by the advice of Rev. Mr. Hosmer they opened a correspondence with Dr. Jarvis. Some of these New Englanders visited him at his place in Concord. And after much consultation and with many doubts and anxieties, thongh reluctant to exchange the pleasant associations and life-long friends in New England for a residence amongst strangers in a strange land, he finally concluded to accept the call, and in March, 1837, left Concord for Louisville. Here he was more successful in securing the confidence of the community in his professional skill, whilst his cultivated and genial manner admitted him at once into the confidence and friendship of the best society.

Soon after his arrival he was placed upon the public school committee, and was also elected, by the city council, one of the attending physicians of the Marine Hospital. Here the

practice of his profession very soon gave him constant employment, and he began to realize in some measure the desired "increase of reputation and income," very much in advance of what he had realized in Concord. He did not confine himself, however, to the business of money-making exclusively.

He was very active in the school committees. After his examination of one of the town schools, he had occasion to complain to his associates of the incompetence of the teacher, and was surprised at the reason given for the appointment of so poorly qualified an instructor. The young man was poor and needed the patronage. Dr. Jarvis objected to the application of the town school fund to the town poor fund, and the conversion of the town school house into the town poor house. His characteristic manner of putting his objection took the committee by surprise, and they immediately decided to cover their retreat from the situation by the appointment of a new teacher.

In his attempt at correcting certain abuses, prejudicial to the health of the patients in the City Hospital, he met with more decided opposition. But after persistently resisting the orders of the hospital steward, of the trustees of the hospital and of the mayor and city council, to change his methods, he finally carried his reformatory measures to a successful issue, and at the end of his term was re-elected.

In 1838, wishing to examine the early history of Kentucky, and finding very little of the early records, he interested the leading citizens in the establishment of a historical library. This institution was incorporated on the first of February in that year, as the Kentucky Historical Society. "He engaged many friends and coöperators, and obtained much from the people in Kentucky and other Western States, also much from Washington, Philadelphia and Massachusetts. But it was at the cost of much labor, begging, entreaty and repeated visiting at offices and public places. The people of the South and South-west are in the habit of allowing documents, papers and manuscripts to perish. Some said their

servants burned all such matters to kindle fires. Judge Brown said, 'if they wanted national documents they must go to Northern men, for they, not the southern men, were accustomed to save.' Nevertheless, in the course of four and a half years, about nine hundred volumes and five thousand pamphlets were collected, besides letters, maps and manuscripts relating to the history of Kentucky and the West."

Although the doctor had more than held his own in competition with the other physicians of Louisville, he had not realized his expectation. He became weary of Kentucky, and longed for home and the society and associations of New England. In truth, the doctor was never satisfied with the profession of a general practitioner of medicine. His aspirations pointed in another direction — to the investigation of mental disorders and the treatment of the insane. "This seemed to him to be the field of his greatest usefulness in the cause of humanity, where also he could accomplish a higher purpose for himself. What he most coveted, was the superintendency of an insane asylum."

Just now vacancies in two insane asylums, one within a few months of the other, were brought to the attention of Dr. Jarvis by his friends, and although his application was fortified by the highest testimonials, and supported by such names as the late Dr. James Jackson, Dr. Jacob Bigelow, Dr. Warren, Dr. Bell of the McLean Asylum, Dr. Woodward of the Worcester Asylum, Dr. Howe, Mr. Horace Mann and the late Hon. Charles Sumner, who "gave their influence and active support without measure" to Dr. Jarvis, whose professional qualifications were also admitted by the trustees of the hospital, to be of the highest order, he failed of election to either of the vacancies. And yet, whilst keenly sensitive to his disappointment, he did not hesitate on this, or on other similar occasions, to speak with his usual candor in terms of just commendation of the personal merits and superior professional qualifications of the successful candidates.

After his removal to Dorchester in 1843, he soon found himself in a satisfactory general practice which continued for

some years. He opened his house at the same time for the reception and treatment of the insane. These soon multiplied upon his hands, more than his house could accommodate, and for them he was obliged to provide occasional board in the families of the neighborhood. He accepted only such patients as were subject to the milder forms of insanity, and were not so dangerous as to require the restraints of a hospital. These, with incipient cases, could be much better cared for in private families, and more successfully treated than was possible within the enclosures and under the restrictions and necessary discipline in insane asylums. It was not long before the doctor found his practice in the treatment of the insane had increased to such an extent that he could not give proper attention to such cases as were more conveniently left to the care of the family physician, without neglecting his regular patients. Moreover, he found that his predominating interest in the investigation and treatment of mental disorders had continued to grow upon him. He had now become an authority, and found himself much occupied in consultations with physicians who brought their patients to him for advice, as to the nature and degree of their mental disorder, and the proper disposition to be made of them. As a matter of necessity, therefore, he now gave his whole time to his specialty, till about the year 1860, when the failing health of Mrs. Jarvis, who had shared with her husband the responsibility and care of the sick, obliged him to give up having patients in his family for a time.

Census of 1840.

A few months after the doctor's return from Louisville to Boston, in 1843, he was confined to his bed by a broken leg. But Dr. Jarvis never knew an idle moment. His attention was now, for the first time, directed to census reports, especially to that of 1840, in respect to insanity in the free colored population, in which there appeared to be gross errors.

To ascertain the source of these, he examined the census of each town in the whole country and compared the number of free colored living with the number stated to be insane.

"In the tables of population the columns of the white insane were placed next to those of the colored insane. These columns were very long—many towns on a page—and it required a very accurate eye and careful discipline to select the proper column for a fact, and to follow it down from the heading. But for want of this care, the figures representing the white lunatics of many towns were placed in the column of the colored, consequently towns which had no colored population, on one page, were represented on the other as having colored lunatics; and in many others the number of colored lunatics were more than that of the colored living. Others were stated to have a large part of their colored people insane.

"From the moment he saw the report he was staggered at the enormous proportion of insanity amongst the free negroes, which grieved the people of the north, but delighted the slaveholders, for herein they found a strong argument for the support of the system."

Mr. Calhoun said: "Here is proof of the necessity of slavery. The African is incapable of self-care and sinks into lunacy under the burden of freedom. It is a mercy to him to give him this guardianship and protection from mental death."

Dr. Jarvis, after a thorough investigation of the errors of the census, brought it to the notice of the American Statistical Association, and it was voted to ask Congress to amend the census in this respect. A committee was appointed to prepare a memorial which was placed in the hands of the late John Quincy Adams, then a member of the lower branch of Congress, and which was referred to a committee, but was never afterwards heard from. Mr. Benion of Georgia admitted to the doctor that the census was in error, but added, "It is too good a thing for our politicians to give up. They had prepared speeches based on it, which they could not afford

to lose." The error went abroad and was published. Dr. Baudin of Paris had adopted it in his celebrated "Traité de la Statistique et Geographie Medicale." In an interview in Paris with Dr. Jarvis in 1860, Dr. Baudin was convinced of the errors of the census which he had adopted on what he supposed to be trustworthy authority, although it did not accord with many of his notions of anthropology. He advised Dr. Jarvis that he would make the correction in the next edition of his book.

We have another example of the doctor's untiring industry in his review of Dr. James Winne's work on Vital Statistics, in which his deductions were based upon less than half a million of births of both sexes. Dr. Jarvis had in 1859 extended Dr. Winne's basis of calculations to one hundred and twenty-five millions, where both sexes were given, and in 1873 he had in his library the reports of two hundred and fifty million of births, when both sexes were stated.

"In other points he was able to give a much broader basis of calculation," and it was satisfactory to him that all these larger numbers were confirmatory of Dr. Winne's deductions. Dr. Jarvis was disinclined to accept, unconditionally, results in vital statistics reached by others, until he had verified them by an indefinite extension of the basis of his calculations.

Census of 1850.

He gives, at great length, an account of his work on the Census of 1850, at the solicitation of Mr. Kennedy, the superintendent, and subsequently at the urgent request of Mr. De Bow, his successor, asking for advice and suggestions as to the objects of the census, points of inquiry and methods of conducting it. And when half through the work, Mr. De Bow informed the Secretary of the Interior that he had received six hundred pages of manuscript from Dr. Jarvis. He also had recourse to Dr. Jarvis in all his difficulties, in regard to the philosophy, principles and details of his work. Although Dr. Jarvis had no promise of remuneration, Mr. De

Bow pressed him for immediate answers as confidently as if Dr. J. were a paid subordinate, especially appointed by the Government for this purpose: and Dr. Jarvis gave immediate attention to the work in hand, to the exclusion of his own private business, so that in this way he "gave to Mr. De Bow and practically to the government, one-third of his time for three years."

At the conclusion of his work he asked Mr. De Bow to present his claim for services. Mr. De Bow replied that the appropriation was exhausted, and that neither himself nor subordinates had been paid, and declined the request. Dr. Jarvis rendered a bill of $1500, which "was carried through the committee on claims and almost unanimously through the House, on 'non-objection day,' but was lost by the action of a single objector." Dr. Jarvis never recovered his claim.

Census of 1860.

He gives a full account of his work in the Census of 1860, at the solication of Mr. Kennedy. Also on that of 1870, at the request of the Hon. David A. Wells and Gen. James A. Garfield, Chairman of the House Committee on the Census, the account of which does not differ in its general character and scope from the preceding, except in its relation to Dr. Jarvis himself, as he was paid for his services.

In the review of Dr. Jarvis's work on the census, the inquiry has often arisen why he should have so freely given of his time to this work with no absolute certainty of remuneration. It may be said first, it was congenial to his taste, and next, that in this, as in all other similar cases, the question of remuneration was of secondary consideration. The paramount motive is to be found in his predominating interest in anthropology; in whatever (in his own words) concerned man's development and growth, power and decay. This naturally led him to enquire about population, census methods, and the results of the enumeration of the people.

Lunacy Commission.

"In 1854 Dr. Jarvis was appointed by the Governor, with Governor Lincoln and Mr. Increase Sumner, as commissioner to inquire into the number and condition of the insane and idiots in Massachusetts, the state of the lunatic hospitals, and the necessity of erecting a new hospital for the insane. No office could have been more consonant to his taste. It was understood by the commissioners, and stated by the Governor, that Dr. Jarvis should give all his time and do all the work and be paid for time and services. Several attempts had been made to do this work without any satisfactory results."

He gives at great length, an account of his year's work, the most laborious of his life, and recounts the unforeseen obstacles he met with, taxing his ingenuity to the utmost to overcome them, and the various expedients, one after another, to which he had recourse. The report, when completed, covered 600 pages, and the reading of it to the commissioners occupied a whole day. It was presented to Governor Gardner, who at once sent it to the legislature, where it was referred to a committee on Charitable Institutions.

"Here was a new field of labor. The committee wanted advice." They had many consultations with Dr. J., who, at their request, wrote out a report in which all the propositions of the commissioners were accepted; and, in accordance with its provisions, the Legislature appropriated $200,000 for the erection of a new Hospital at Northampton. Dr. Jarvis considered this "the most satisfactory work of his life, in which he more nearly realized his highest ideal than ever before." At the end of his labor he found his health to be seriously impaired,—suffering from dyspepsia and various other ailments, from which he did not recover for more than a year afterwards.

School for Idiots and Institution for the Blind.

In 1843 he became a member of the corporation of the School for Idiots; was elected trustee and secretary, and sel-

dom failed to meet annually with the corporation, or to make the required intermediate visits, as trustee, during the year: from 1843 to 1883, a period of forty years.

In 1849 he was appointed physician to the Institution for the Blind, without salary or reward. He held the office until the spring of 1860, ten years.

During Dr. Howe's absence in Europe, he was superintendent pro tem., and visited the Institution daily. "This, with the Idiot School, took about half his time and his best thoughts." He rendered Dr. Howe valuable service in various ways during his connection with the Institution. Dr. Howe frequently found his labors to be excessive, and he relied chiefly on Dr. J. for such aid and support as he required. Dr. Jarvis had charge of the funds of the Institution, and was responsible for the correctness of the accounts.

At the request of Mr. Horace Mann, Dr. Jarvis wrote a book on physiology, as the basis of the law of health and of life, to be used in the schools. It is still in use in the schools at the West, as well as in some nearer home. It has been translated into Japanese, and a copy was presented to the author.

Membership in Societies.

The societies in this country, sanitary, philosophical or historical, of which Dr. Jarvis was an associate, or corresponding member, need not be enumerated. Abroad, he was a member of the London Statistical, The British Association for the Promotion of Social Science and the British Association of Superintendents of Insane Asylums. In this country he was also a member of the Association of Medical Superintendents of Insane Hospitals, with whom he met annually in the principal cities in the United States and Canada in rotation. At his first meeting with this body at Utica, the president assigned the subject of the supposed increase of insanity for him to investigate and report upon at the meeting in Boston.

The next year the president assigned him the subject of the comparative liability of males and females to insanity. In his investigation of this subject, he consulted the records of 250 hospitals.

In 1861 Gov. Andrew appointed him as one of the trustees of the Worcester Hospital, where, in addition to the requirements of monthly visits, he visited at other times on his own account, sometimes spending the day and night. In this connection we have an illustration, not only of Dr. Jarvis's methods of practice, but also of his fidelity to his ideal of duty, in whatever trust was committed to him." Beside the formal visits with his associates, he went through the wards alone, talked to the patients, listened to their tales and occasional complaints, visited the wards at all times of the day, late at night and early in the morning, when the men were rising; and saw them in all conditions, eating, sleeping, working or lounging, which was their most frequent way of spending time."

The government of the hospital procured lectures for the patients. "At about twenty of these meetings, in place of lectures, he read from his diary or letters, written while in Europe. He usually read an hour at a time. He never had a more quiet and apparently attentive audience. They appeared interested. He was frequently asked by the patients if he would lecture that evening. The officers said that when it was known that he was to lecture, the patients talked of it in anticipation, and they discussed the topics for days afterwards. It was a variety in their dreary monotony of life. And as the diary was the daily minute record of his hourly experience and observation, written to his wife, it gave a familiar insight into English, Scotch and French scenes and manners, which was new to most of his hearers."

Dr. Jarvis's Writings.

Dr. Jarvis's writings embrace a wide range of subjects, the nature of which may be best learned by referring to his li-

brary, which mainly consists of such works as he required in his investigations. He had complete sets of reports of all the lunatic hospitals in the United States from their beginning, and nearly all those of the British Provinces. He was largely supplied with those of Scotland and England, and with many of France and Italy. He had full sets of the reports of the English Commission of Lunacy and of the Scotch Board of Lunacy. He had much that had been written in Great Britain and on the continent on this subject. He had a complete set of the nine censuses of the United States, and the census of every nation of Europe, except Turkey and Greece: all the reports of mortality of England, Scotland and Ireland that have been printed, some of Norway, Sweden and Denmark, Saxony, Hanover, Bavaria, Baden, Frankfort, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal and Australia.

"In 1873 he received from Count Showvaloff one hundred and fourteen volumes of Russian statistics, principally relating to man and his liabilities in Russia. These were all sealed books to him. But he inferred they were of this character, from the young Count's offering when in Boston, to send him such." He had also the reports of mortality of all the States and cities in the United States, which had printed them. "He had endeavored to obtain all such records, and by the active kindness of his many friends, at home and abroad, he had obtained a larger and more comprehensive statistical library than probably is to be found elsewhere in the United States."

In a list of over one hundred and fifty articles on various subjects, written at different times, those that he discussed at greatest length were Vital Statistics, The Laws of Health in all its subdivisions, and more especially Insanity. A full list of his writings will be published elsewhere.

Correspondents.

Dr. Jarvis had a large correspondence, more especially after his visit to Europe in 1860, with Sir James Clark, physician

to the Queen, in respect to the hospitals in the United States and their management. He wrote Sir James at great length, an account of all the hospitals in this country, and of the principles upon which they were conducted. He was in communication with the chiefs of the principal European Bureaus of Statistics, as well as with the members of other societies, Historical, Philosophical, Anthropological, and with other eminent specialists. To all these he was a contributor by his pen and by donations of the annual reports of public institutions of special interest to his correspondents; and to the London Statistical, especially, of all the public documents of Massachusetts, with which, until recent years, he had been liberally supplied for that purpose as they were issued from year to year. His writings appear to have been better known and more fully appreciated abroad than at home. According to his views, "Anthropological questions, which meet with much attention in Europe, did not meet with a similar response here. There is much legislation in the British Parliament on the subject of health and its liabilities," and *on* preventives against the dangers which threaten it, which had received much less consideration in this country. He refers to an article he published "on the tendency of unbalanced minds and misdirected education in this country to produce insanity. When printed he sent copies to the Boston papers. No notice was taken of it. He sent it to London, and the Biological Journal republished it. When it came back to Boston, in the English journal, the papers then spoke of it, not referring to its contents, however, but as a matter of national pride, that an American essay was thought, in London, worthy of being presented to the English public." He sent copies of his article to the Boston papers showing the average longevity of people in most of their several occupations, and it shared the same fate with its predecessor. It was, however, noticed, and its principles were published in several of the London journals.

During the early years of his practice, he had laid by but little for a time of need. And subsequently, as his work had

increased upon his hands, he found no time for money-making. But then he had no time or desire to spend. And it was by careful saving and the simple mode of living he had chosen for himself, that he had assured an independence for his declining years.

Dr. Jarvis had always a strong desire to visit Europe. "It was the dream of his life, which he hoped might some time be realized." But it was not until February, 1860, that an opportunity was open to him, when his services were sought by the family of a wealthy merchant, "who was just beginning to feel the effect of overwork on the brain, and was advised to travel abroad. His wife and daughter were to accompany, and take the entire care of him. But they wanted a physician, accustomed to mental disorders, to go with them, to advise and take charge of his malady." The doctor entered into an engagement with this family, and they sailed from Boston for Liverpool in March following. After his arrival in Europe, he was commissioned by the American Statistical Association as delegate to the International Statistical Congress at its fourth session in London, 1860.

This congress, over which Prince Albert presided, was regarded with special favor, and all its proceedings were of the deepest interest to the English government. The governments of Belgium, France and Austria had charge of the three preceding congresses. Almost every civilized nation was represented at the session in London. Dr. Jarvis took an active part in the discussions, and in the preparation of reports upon such subjects as were assigned to him by the presiding officers of the sections, or other members of the congress.

The vice-presidents were chosen, one from each nation. Dr. Jarvis was chosen from the United States. The doctor, in his letters to Mrs. Jarvis, alludes to the gracious attentions which the members of the congress received from Prince Albert. He also refers to the abounding hospitalities tendered by the Queen's ministers, members of Parliament, Lord Mayor and Mayoress of London, the London Statistical and

other scientific bodies. But Dr. Jarvis's intercourse with the ruling classes was not exclusive. He met the English people in every station, "from Prince Albert through the nobility, members of Parliament, high officers of the government, professors, men of science, bishops, clergymen, merchants, manufacturers, bankers, down to the coachmen and laborers," and everywhere he found them courteous, affable and hospitable. From his first arrival to his departure he everywhere met with that generous sympathy, courtesy and kindness which made him feel that he was among friends.

Although he found so much to interest him during the brief period of his visit amongst friends and correspondents, in England and on the continent, he did not neglect the opportunity to visit the hospitals, insane asylums, prisons and reformatory institutions, and what more especially interested him, the private insane asylums in London. There were in England one hundred and thirteen of these private institutions, in which seven twelfths of the private patients of the kingdom were inmates. The dwellings were mostly old mansions of the nobility, or of large families, now used for the homes of the insane, without the barred windows, strong doors, locks and bolts, deemed necessary for the custody of the patients, but where they enjoyed the conveniences of parlors, sitting-rooms and sleeping chambers, and social freedom of the family.

The doctor gave much time to visiting all those institutions, and in studying their methods of administration. Amongst the patrons of those organized charities who welcomed him to their homes, was Miss Florence Nightingale, an honorary member of this Association, who gave several parties to the different foreign delegates, at all of which the doctor was a favored guest. I have given this account of his intercourse with the English people of all classes, as far as I could, in his own words, as illustrative of the capacity and breadth of his sympathies; and of what an intimate friend has characterized as "his genius for friendship." "With the men of England and Scotland, and with statisticians from the

continent, he opened a correspondence and established exchanges," which gave him agreeable occupation to the end of his days.

After his return from Europe he continued his labors, unremitted, till 1874, when his work was suddenly arrested by an attack of paralysis slightly affecting one side, but more seriously the organs of speech and deglutition, and from which he never entirely recovered. Although his arduous labors were now at an end, he continued in comfortable health till near the end of his days, excepting six months' confinement to his house by a serious fracture of the thigh bone.

In 1880, he made all his arrangements in reference to the approaching end of his life's work, and of all the objects to be provided for; the disposition to be made of his library after his decease, was the one subject only of doubt and anxiety. Its statistics represented an essential part of his life's work, and it was his oft-expressed desire that these might be kept intact. These constituted the most important part of his library, and they were finally donated to the American Statistical Association, to which he had previously been one of the largest contributors. By a vote of the Association, the bequest as described in his will is incorporated in this paper. He was present at the meeting of the Association 17th October, 1884, apparently in his usual health, and on Monday, 20th, following, he had a second attack of paralysis, which terminated in his death October 31st. Had he lived till the 9th of January he would have reached the age of 82. Mrs. Jarvis, whose health had been declining for some years, followed her husband the second day after his decease, and they were buried the same day, in one grave, in their native town of Concord, in this State.

Dr. Jarvis was the son of Francis and Milicent Jarvis, of Concord, Massachusetts. He was a graduate of Harvard College, Class of 1826.

Although Dr. Jarvis was not indifferent to fame, it does not appear that he was ever diverted, by merely personal

aspirations, from the higher purpose to which in early life he had consecrated himself, — the intellectual and moral uplifting and the amelioration of the physical condition of man.

EXTRACT FROM THE WILL OF THE LATE EDWARD JARVIS.

I give and bequeath to the American Statistical Association of Boston, if it have a separate and independent existence at the time of my death, all my books, works and pamphlets, relating to population, mortality, health, insanity, vital and other statistics of every kind, financial, commercial, manufacturing and agricultural, also those relating to anatomy, physiology, natural history of Massachusetts, charities, prisons, crime and pauperism, also all my national, state, city and town documents, American and foreign, of every kind, all my books on law and political economy, and all my manuscript and note-books and papers. But if the Statistical Association shall be already possessed of any of the works, books and pamphlets, mentioned in this section, it is my will that all such duplicates, if in the English language, shall go to the public library of Concord, Massachusetts, and if in any foreign language, they shall go to the library at Harvard College, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. This, however, is not to prevent the said Statistical Association using the duplicate American documents, in exchange with other societies, officials or libraries in other states or countries. If the Statistical Association shall not have a separate and independent existence, at the time of my death, or if at any future time it shall cease to exist, it is my will, that none of the works, books or pamphlets, that I have given to it, or shall give to it, shall be sold, but that all except my manuscript books and papers shall go to the city library of Boston, Massachusetts, and if there shall be duplicates, then such duplicates shall be given to the library of Harvard College in Cambridge, if in a foreign language, and to the public library of Concord,

Massachusetts, if in the English language. In this case of the Statistical Association, it is my will that the manuscript books and papers go the Concord library.

ADDITIONAL EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL.

§ 4. I give to Harvard College in Cambridge, my beloved Alma Mater, my German atlas, and five hundred dollars, the interest to be appropriated for the use of the library.

§ 9. I give and bequeath to the New England Hospital for Women and Children, now on Codman avenue, Boston, all my library relating to the theory and practice of medicine, surgery, *materia medica*, and medical literature.

§ 10. I give and bequeath to the public library of Concord, Massachusetts, all the residue of my library; all my books relating to religion, morals, history, biography, geography, travels, poetry, fiction, all my dictionaries, atlases (except the German atlas) and maps. But if any of these books are duplicated, they are to go to Lincoln Public Library.

Dr. Jarvis also bequeathed $500 to the American Statistical Association.

At the annual meeting of the American Statistical Association, held in Boston, January 19, 1883,—

On motion, Mr. Dean was instructed to prepare appropriate resolutions of appreciation of the services of the retiring President, such resolutions to be spread upon the records of this meeting.

On motion of Mr. Mason it was voted that the constitution of the Association be so amended as to allow the election of Dr. Edward Jarvis, President *emeritus;* that the council report the proper form of amendment to secure such results, and that action be taken on such amendment at the next regular meeting of the Association.

On motion of Mr. Carroll D. Wright it was unanimously voted that the library of the Association be called The Jarvis Statistical Library.

Mr. Dean presented the following resolutions relating to the retiring President:

WHEREAS, Edward Jarvis, M.D., who for thirty-one years has been annually elected president of the Association, which office he has ably and honorably filled, has now expressed a wish, on account of advancing years, to be relieved from the duties of the office,—

Resolved, That while reluctantly yielding to the wishes of Dr. Jarvis, we desire to place on record an earnest expression of our sense of the manifold services he has rendered the Association by the able manner in which he has performed the duties of his office, by the ability with which he has represented the society at home and abroad, by the many valuable papers he has prepared for us and read at our meetings, and by the assiduous and unwearied zeal with which he has labored at all times and in all ways for the advancement of the interests of the Association and of statistical knowledge.

Resolved, That we take pride and pleasure in calling attention to the high rank which he has gained as a writer on statistical and physiological subjects, and to the benefits which he has conferred upon his fellow-men by his laborious investigations, particularly in vital statistics, which have made him an honor to his country and to science.

At a meeting of the American Statistical Association, April 20, 1883,—

Under the amendment to the constitution, adopted at this meeting, it was voted, on motion of Mr. Dean, that Edward Jarvis, M.D., be elected as President *emeritus* of this Association. The motion was unanimously adopted, and Dr. Jarvis was so elected.